

# ESSEX HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION



**Town of Essex  
29 West Avenue  
Essex, CT 06426**

**Regular Meeting  
Thursday, September 22, 2016  
Town Hall Auditorium**

## **1. Call to Order**

Chairman Jeff Going called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Essex Harbor Management Commission to order at 7:30 p.m.

## **2. Attendance**

### **Members Present**

- Earl Fowler, Alternate
- Jeff Going, Chairman
- Kit Schellens, Alternate
- Terry Stewart, Treasurer
- Walter Wiegert
- Joe Zaraschi, Vice Chairman

### **Ex Officio Members Present**

- Buddy Hitchcock, Deputy Harbor Master
- Paul Riggio, Harbor Master

### **Others Present**

- Cy Libby, Brewer Dauntless Shipyard & Marina
- Terry Lomme, Esq.
- Sue Bailey, CT DEEP
- Keith Neilson, Docko, Inc.
- Approximately 30 members of the public

Kit Schellens was seated for John Senning.

## **3. Approval of August Regular Meeting Minutes**

The August 25, 2016 regular meeting minutes were reviewed.

***Motion: Terry Stewart moved to approve the August 25, 2016 regular meeting minutes. Joe Zaraschi seconded the motion. Those in favor: Kit Schellens, Terry Stewart, Walter Wiegert, and Joe Zaraschi; 4-0-0 motion unanimously approved.***

#### **4. Foxboro Point Proposed Docking Facilities**

Jeff Going welcomed those present for this agenda item and asked everyone to sign in. Approximately 30 members of the public were present for the public review of the Foxboro Point proposed docking facilities application by SKR Partners, LLC. This review was hosted by the Harbor Management Commission as a result of a petition to DEEP requesting a public hearing on this matter by 28 petitioners. Attorney Terry Lomme representing SKR Partners, LLC, Susan Bailey from CT DEEP, and Keith Neilson from Docko, Inc. were also present for this portion of the agenda.

Jeff provided an overview of the Harbor Management Commission's role in the project from the time it was initially presented approximately three years ago. Attorney Lomme and Mr. Neilson also provided overviews of the history and extensive steps taken with regard to the development of this proposal and the various agencies and meetings involved, during which time all input was carefully considered and incorporated when possible.

Initially each of the eight property owners would have had the ability to build their own dock. The proposal as it now stands allows for a single fixed dock to accommodate eight boats with recommendations specifically for eight vessels that have to be shallow draft and restrictions of no electricity and no water, which the Harbor Management determined to be acceptable within the guidelines of the Harbor Management Plan.

Comments, concerns, and questions were raised and discussed, including communication, notification, location, the water and electricity restrictions, parking, dock size, hand rails, ramp width, visual and environmental impact, type of boats allowed, and whether or not the proposal could be changed at this point.

Sue Bailey noted that there is a condition in the draft permit that all of the people sharing the dock have to enter into a shared dock agreement. Although it is not yet finalized, there is a condition that if any one person decides they don't want to share the whole dock, the dock has to come out.

She also noted that modifications can still be made at this point if everyone comes to consensus as to what those modifications would be, but because DEEP received the petition for a public hearing, they would need a new petition signed by all 28 petitioners to withdraw the original petition. Mr. Jonathan Morris was designated by the group to act as spokesperson and liaison with Attorney Lomme to facilitate this process.

This portion of the meeting concluded at 9:15 p.m.

#### **5. Public Comment**

None other than Foxboro Point discussion above.

#### **6. Financial Report**

Terry Stewart presented the September 22, 2016 Treasurer's report.

***Motion: Walter Wiegert moved to approve the September 22, 2016 Treasurer's report. Joe Zaraschi seconded the motion. Those in favor: Kit Schellens, Joe Zaraschi, and Walter Wiegert, Terry Stewart abstained; 3-0-1 motion approved.***

Five invoices were presented for approval:

- Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk - \$345.43 for September Clerk Services, which included two additional hours for newsletter preparation
- Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk - \$51.70 - Reimbursement for Hartford Courant Advertising Notice
- Computer Signs - \$89.33 – Black Reflective Lettering Ordered by Jeff Going
- Lighthouse Printing - \$85.00 - Mooring Permit Renewal Forms
- Paul Riggio - \$277.57 – Reimbursement for the survey map mylars

***Motion: Terry Stewart moved to approve the invoices presented. Kit Schellens seconded the motion. Those in favor: Kit Schellens, Terry Stewart, Walter Wiegert, and Joe Zaraschi; 4-0-0 motion unanimously approved.***

## **7. Harbor Master Report**

### **New Wait List Requests**

- Harold Abeles, South Cove, check dated 9/16/16
- Brett Haskins, Meadows, check dated 9/6/16
- Warner Hollister, Meadows, check dated 8/29/16

Paul reported that we went into storm warning preparation mode for the predicted storm over Labor Day weekend and an e-blast regarding same was sent to all mooring permit holders. Ten boats did nothing to prepare for the storm per the Harbor Master recommendations, and Sea Tow had to be called for one boat dragging in the Meadows because the boat owner didn't check the mooring for wraps. Paul is going to send these people a letter reminding them of the actions that need to be taken when a storm is expected.

Sending an e-blast to small vessel permit holders for storm warning preparations was discussed. This will be done in the future.

Paul had the survey maps printed on mylar paper, signed, stamped and filed with Town Hall.

## **8. Harbor Management Business**

- **Capital Projects:** None.
- **Town Access Ways:**

Joe reported that he did an inventory of small vessels at Bushnell Access. 71 out of the 75 small vessel rack capacity were in the racks, and there were three vessels without permit decals. He put warning notices on all three boats, with a deadline for removal of September 28, 2016. This will also be posted on the website. The Commission will have the vessels removed if they are still there after September 28<sup>th</sup>.

Joe will talk to Dave Caroline, Public Works, about taking care of some erosion at the Bushnell Access launch area and removal of debris off the float on the water side of the Town Park.

## **9. Correspondence**

One bid for servicing of anchorage marks and dock floats was received from Brewer Dauntless Shipyard & Marina in the amount of \$3,396.00.

*Motion: Walter Wiegert moved to accept the bid from Brewer Dauntless Shipyard & Marina in the amount of \$3,396.00 for servicing of anchorage markers and dock floats. Terry Stewart seconded the motion. Those in favor: Kit Schellens, Terry Stewart, Walter Wiegert, and Joe Zaraschi, 4-0-0 motion unanimously approved.*

## **10. New Business**

None.

## **11. Old Business**

- **Confiscated Vessel Auction**

John Senning not present, no update.

- **Harbor Management Plan Update**

No update.

- **Newsletter**

Betsy has prepared a draft of the newsletter for Jeff's review.

Jeff noted that he mentioned to First Selectman Norm Needleman the request for a legal interpretation of the easement on Mack Lane which is still pending.

## **12. Adjournment**

*Motion: Walter Wiegert moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 p.m. Joe Zaraschi seconded the motion. Those in favor: Kit Schellens, Terry Stewart, Walter Wiegert, and Joe Zaraschi; 4-0-0 motion unanimously approved.*

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk**